

NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NEBRASKA HOG INVENTORY 7 PERCENT BELOW A YEAR AGO

LINCOLN, Neb., September 24, 2004 -- Nebraska inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 2004, was 2.85 million head, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. This was 7 percent below September 1, 2003 but unchanged from June 1, 2004. Breeding inventory, at 360,000 head, was down 4 percent from September 1, 2003 but unchanged from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 2.49 million head, was 7 percent below last year but unchanged from last quarter.

The June-August 2004 Nebraska pig crop, at 1.56 million head, was 4 percent less than 2003 and 1 percent less than 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 175,000 head, 5 percent below last year.

Nebraska hog producers intend to have 170,000 sows farrow during the September-November 2004 quarter, down 6 percent from the actual farrowings during the same period in 2003 and 2002. Intended farrowings for December 2004 - February 2005, at 170,000 sows, are 3 percent below the same period in 2003 and 6 percent below 2003.

U.S. HOG INVENTORY UP 1 PERCENT

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on September 1, 2004, was 61.4 million head. This was 1 percent above September 1, 2003 and June 1, 2004. Breeding inventory, at 5.98 million head, was up 1 percent from September 1, 2003, and also up 1 percent from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 55.4 million head, was 1 percent above last year and 2 percent above last quarter.

The June-August 2004 U.S. pig crop, at 26.0 million head, was up 1 percent from both 2003 and 2002. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.89 million head, 1 percent below last year.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.86 million sows farrow during the September-November 2004 quarter, 1 percent above the actual farrows during the same period in both 2003 and 2002. Intended farrowings for December 2004-February 2005, at 2.85 million sows, are up 1 percent from the same period in 2004, and up 3 percent from the same period in 2003.

Access the National publication for this release at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/livestock/php-bb/2004/hgpg0904.pdf>